of trade and as a connecting link between the hills and the low lands. When coolies in the hills were found unfit for work owing to illness, they were left in Kottayam to be looked after by the Town Improvement Committee. In another way the Committee was handicapped. The Government support which the Committee had when the Dewan Peishkar was President seemed to be passing away with the appointment of a non-official President. The Committee requested financial aid for putting up a building for the office of the Committee, but that was refused. The tax on Government buildings alone would amount to Rs. 2,000. Again, when the poor financial condition of the Committee was explained to Government and a contribution asked for for putting up a building for the use of the Committee's Office, it was declined on the ground that the funds should be used for works of public utility. The Member then dwelt upon the inconvenience the people were put to for want of a slaughter-house and submitted that the surplus of Rs. 14,000 was only apparent. It was not a real asset to the Committee. The difficulties of the non-official President in the matter of getting the help of the Land Revenue officials such as Proverthicars were then described. Lastly, he said that the local P. W. D. Officers were giving permission to people for the occupation of town roads, construction of flights of steps on road sides, &c., without reference to the committee. Under the T. I. C. Regulation such matters should be dealt with by the Committee. They did not want to quarrel with the P. W. D. Officers. The Government should interfere and set matters right.

Dewan's reply.—The Dewan Peishkar, Kottayam, will be asked to issue instructions to his subordinates to render all help and supply any information, required by the Committee. Instructions will also be issued to the Chief Engineer to see that the Committee is consulted on questions connected with lands, &c., within the Town limits, before final action was taken by the P. W. D. The other points are noted.

109. Extension of the Thirunakkara Market.

Mr. Kurien Mani (Member, Trading classes, Kottayam) represented that the site of the Thirunakkara Market was inadequate for the purpose and should, therefore, be extended as early as possible. He then referred to the improvements to be made to the Cutcherry landing which was being greatly used by the merchants. In view of the growing trade of the town and the increased traffic at the landing, he requested that the landing might be deepened and widened so as to enable boats and steam launches to land there. Arrangements should also be made for extending the canal to the vicinity of the market and for the improvement of the Thekkumgopuram *kadavu* which had silted up and was of no use to the public.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

110. Certain sanitary needs of the town of Vaikom.

Mr. K. N. Govinda Pillai (Member, T. I. C., Vaikom) submitted that the tanks and wells in the town had been contaminated by stagnant and impure water and the place made quite unhealthy. Rheumatic fever and elephantiasis were not rare in the town. There were not sufficient outlets for the water stagnating in the Perinchilavumpadom on the eastern side of the temple from the Muvattupuzha river during the rainy season. In spite of repeated representations made to Government on the subject, nothing had been done yet. He suggested that the canal which ran through the Perinchalavumpadom might be extended southward as far as the Puthen *thodu*; and the Kaniyan *thodu* leading from the above said *padom* to the *kayal* should be deepened and widened so as to allow free flow of water. Two or three small canals should be cut through the centre of the town to drain away the stagnant water in the lanes and roads. He also urged the necessity for the improvement of the road from the local temple to Oodayanapuram.

The removal of rubbish from the local temple was another matter to which the Member wanted the attention of the authorities to be invited. What was required was that a piece of land should be acquired for the purpose of depositing the temple

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rubbish. The roads on the east and north of the local temple were under the control of the Devaswom authorities. Those two roads together with the maintenance funds should be placed at the disposal of the Committee.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

(2) MEDICAL RELIEF.

111. Administration of medical relief.

Mr. N. R. Krishnan (Member, Nominated) dealt with the financial aspect of the administration of medical relief according to the western system of treatment and said that the people were partial to the native system of treatment, as that suited the climatic conditions and as the diseases were best cured thereby. He then submitted the following suggestions for the consideration of Government :—

(1) One Ayurveda Dispensary should be established in each taluk, the people being required to put up the necessary buildings alone, as they did for the Educational Department.

(2) The Pharmacy at Trivandrum should be reorganised and medicines should be prepared there with machine labour.

(3) The Lunatic and Leper Asylums at the capital should be placed under the control of the Director of Ayurveda. In the beginning, 10 or 12 patients from each Asylum might be made over to the Director experimentally, and if Government be satisfied with the efficacy of the treatment, all the patients might be so treated.

(4) The medical officers in the service should not receive fees for private practice.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

112. Improvements to Ayurveda.

Mr. N. Padmanabhan Vaidyan (Member, Nominated) was gratified that public interest had been kindled everywhere for the promotion of the Ayurvedic system of treatment which was a time-honoured and scientific one and peculiarly favourable to the people of the State. Considering the expenditure incurred on the Hospitals, proportionate attention was not being paid by Government to the improvement of the Vaidyasalas. There was a vast difference between the pay of the officers in the Ayurveda Department and that in other Departments. Full benefits of an Ayurveda Department could not be derived if the department did not possess a staff of trained and well-paid Vaidyans. The Member then submitted the following proposals for the consideration of Government.—

1. The Ayurveda Patasala should have two sections *viz.*, an Ayurveda School and Ayurveda College.

2. An Ayurveda School should be established in each division.

3. An Ayurveda College on modern lines should be established at Trivandrum, the successful students being granted degrees and diplomas.

4. The Ayurveda Patasalas at Chengankulangara and Ettumanur should be raised to a school and given grant-in-aid.

5. All the existing grant-in-aid Vaidyasalas should be abolished. A well-trained Vaidyan should be appointed for each taluk.

6. Medicines prepared in the Government Pharmacy were now available only for the residents of Trivandrum. It was highly desirable that the medicines should be made available for sale in other parts of the State. Medicines should be prepared in large quantities with machine labour. Arrangements should be made for collecting and stocking medicinal herbs from the hills.

7. One or two Vaidyans should be sent to foreign places and trained in the systems of treatment obtaining there.

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